Blue Print to Improve PDS

†157. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether blue-print of any scheme has been prepared for improving the present Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have contemplated to exclude the rich class from the said distribution system;

(d) if so, the criterion being considered to identify such rich class and estimated population of the country likely to be covered under such rich class; and

(e) the percentage of foodgrains estimated to be saved through this step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The Government has been receiving inputs that the current Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) suffers from some inadequacies. A process of revamping the Public Distribution System (PDS) to make it more efficient and better targetised for the poor and needy has, therefore, been set in motion. The process involves consultation with the State Governments, knowledgeable persons and experts. The Government is engaged in discussions with the States to seek their views as well to impress on them to take steps to make the system efficient. No blue print has been prepared.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.